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United States Department of the Interior



OCT 06 1999

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
California/Nevada Operations Office
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, California 95825

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Region
2800 Cottage Way
Sacramento, California 95825

Dear CVP Stakeholders, CALFED Participants, and Interested Parties:

Today, the Department of the Interior is releasing the Final Decision on Implementation of Section 3406(b)(2) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Decision) (enclosed). Additional copies of the Decision may be obtained in two ways:

- ▶ A PDF version may be downloaded from the Bureau of Reclamation's web site at www.mp.usbr.gov
- ▶ Printed copies may be obtained by calling 916/978-5100 (TDD 916/978-5608).

By this Decision, Interior implements the provisions of Section 3406(b)(2) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act and the intent of Congress. The Decision and accompanying attachments set out a calculation of CVP yield, the method of accounting for use of the dedicated CVP yield and procedures for management of the yield, and describe how the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will engage State agencies and stakeholders in deciding which potential fishery measures to prescribe.

The Decision reflects months of detailed analysis, careful consideration of the public's views, and extensive consultation with the State of California. You will find attached to the Decision Interior's responses to comments from the public and from California's Department of Water Resources and Department of Fish and Game. The Decision represents the next step in Interior's mandate to "dedicate and manage annually" the CVP yield Congress allocated to designated environmental purposes. It establishes a framework to engage State agencies and stakeholders every year in discussing how Interior will use the (b)(2) supplies for the mandated purposes. It takes effect immediately and applies to the water year beginning October 1, 1999, and subsequent years.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Spear".

Michael J. Spear
Manager
California/Nevada Operations Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kirk C. Rodgers".

Kirk C. Rodgers
Acting Regional Director
Mid-Pacific Region
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Enclosure